

# SOLDIERS ENJOYING CAMP LIFE

Numerous Incidents Related in Letters Written Home  
and for Publication—Transfer of Squadron of Cavalry  
to Infantry Delays Sending Recruits

The week has been quiet for the boys of Company I and the first Vermont regiment both at Eagle Pass, Texas, and at Camp Governor Gates. The transfer of the squadron of cavalry to the infantry has held up once more the transfer of the Company I recruits to the Texas border and it may be another week or two before they finally start to join their comrades in the south. The first battalion has been relieving regulars on border duty at different points, being divided into detachments for the work. Interesting letters from members of the regiment have been received, some of which are given herewith.

EAGLE PASS, Texas, July 21.  
Last night we received from the Soldiers' Aid society of Brattleboro 100 pairs of pajamas for the company. The men are so proud of the gift that this morning a pajama parade is being held in the company street. Please see that the thanks of the company are extended publicly through The Reformer for this gift, which is very much appreciated. The heat here for the last three days has been intense. For each of the three days the mercury has reached the 100 mark and yesterday the thermometer in Maj. Ashley's tent registered 108.

Company I went on guard duty again last night and as usual in the rain, but Lieut. Walter R. Spaulding being officer of the day. To show that the boys when on guard are up to snuff, Col. Reeves came wandering along and Private Harold E. Dean held him up until he could identify him. He then let him pass.

There were other heroes in the company besides Dean. John A. MacDonald held up a man from Company E and Anthony Valgar was responsible for holding up two members of Company M.

Francis A. Dunlevy is orderly for Col. Reeves and Francis M. Fitzgibbon is orderly for Capt. and Adj. Barber.

1st Lieut. H. W. Taylor of Brattleboro, of the medical corps, administered the other day the second treatment of typhoid serum to the man who had not received it and 15 minutes later Capt. Edmonds of the medical corps vaccinated about 50 men for smallpox. The vaccine is just beginning to work and there are some sore arms about camp.

Things are certainly coming our way. Sunday, the 17th, the men were issued clothing consisting of cotton olive drab breeches and shirt and suits of underwear. We were all glad to get them, for the wooden clothing that we were wearing was just a bit warm for this climate. Coats are being issued to the companies and Company I will get theirs after they come off guard tonight. It will seem good to sleep on one after a few weeks of camping on the ground or a board floor.

Last night we had a very hard sandstorm, the first hard one for a week. This was followed by a thunder shower which lasted about an hour.

H. E. ROBBINS.

In a letter to his sister, Mrs. Nellie Lynch, William Lee, one of the cooks of Company I, writes that Company I has had the least number of members ill of any company in the regiment and none of those has been ill more than about a day at a time. He does not expect much more trouble for the Mexicans across the border are about half starved and work for 18 cents a day until dark. He writes that one of the men of the regiment recently said something that was disrespectful and spent five days under guard. Men under that punishment are obliged to do all the hard work about camp. Only one from Company I has been obliged to undergo that punishment.

John Blake in a letter to his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. John Blake, enclosed \$80 in Carranza paper currency for which he paid 40 cents. The letter was written Sunday evening, July 16, and he reported that it had been the easiest day since arriving in camp. There was battalion inspection in the morning by Maj. Ashley and new uniforms of light weight materials were issued.

He writes that the men are soaked to the skin about every day now, as the rainy season has started, but they retire with their wet clothes on and never catch cold. As the men are permitted to leave camp now he was down town three nights during the week and saw many Mexicans, but the Americans have no trouble with them.

He was on the international bridge an hour the day before writing the letter and there watched the soldiers search every person and every package taken across. In one keg of hard they found bullets. He says he must take the typhoid treatment three times more, also the smallpox and rattlesnake treatment. It makes the men pretty sick for a day or two but most of them are able to go out and drill. He was suffering from sunburn due to digging a trench for an hour without a shirt on. All the men signed the payroll Friday, July 14, and expect their pay about August 1.

The men all think they are liable to be there from six to eight months from the way preparations for a permanent camp continue to be made.

Under date of July 18, G. S. Bennett of the 1st Vermont regiment at Eagle Pass wrote to the Rutland Herald an interesting letter of the method of drawing and providing rations for the

men of the regiment. The letter follows:

"The feeding of upwards of 1,000 men, and still more of feeding 15,000 men is somewhat of a task, but that is what the men in charge of the commissary department in the Eagle Pass district are up against and I will try and tell to a small extent the methods employed. In our camp, the Vermont regiment, we have nearly 1,000 hungry men to be fed."

"To start the ball rolling, each 15 days the commander of each company hands a 'ration return,' which in the total tells the total number of men entitled to rations from the company for the 15 days. These returns from the various companies are consolidated at headquarters and upon this consolidated return is based the amount of money allowed at the chief commissary office for the regiment for the period. In other words, if you had 1,000 men for 15 days the allowance would be 15,000 rations."

Cost Per Day to Feed Men.

"Each month at the office of the chief commissary the contract prices of various articles of food are obtained and from that and the daily allowance of various foods for each man, the daily ration per man is established for the month. This month it is 28.61 cents per day per man."

"Sometimes the allowance gets down to 25 cents and sometimes up to 30 cents per man per day. This then is what each man is allowed for his food for a day. If there are 1,000 men in the company the daily allowance for the company is \$28.61. In other words, the company cooks have got to feed their 100 men daily for \$28.61 and they do it and at the end of the month they have some money coming to them from the commissary as a rule."

"Every morning at 7 o'clock our commissary sergeant and his detail take the auto truck and go down to the railroad yard where a car of beef has been set on the siding and there he draws what beef is wanted in the regiment for the day. By the way, beef is the only fresh meat issued in the army, other fresh meats have to be bought outside. After the meat is drawn the truck goes to the post bakery and draws the bread for the day, generally coming about 500 loaves. Twice a week all kinds of canned goods are drawn. These provisions are brought to the regimental commissary department where the mess sergeants of each company come and draw what things they have ordered."

"There are two cooks to each company and with their two assistants the meals are prepared. Each of the companies has a field range of good size for their work and things are very convenient. Some companies have company funds, which enables them to have more or better food than the ordinary, or more extras. The ordinary run of food consists of meat and potatoes, beans and corn, and a vegetable of some kind for dinner. Other meals are similar. Coffee, iced tea or lemonade generally form the liquid part of the meal. Stews and soups figure in the bill of fare as they use up the small pieces and are very nutritious and the points must be looked after in the field."

Vermonters' Appetites Good.

"Immediately after mess call three times a day an onlooker may see lines of men in front of the cook tents all anxiously waiting their turn at the food. There is generally enough so that each man has all he wants and there is sometimes a little left over but not a great deal as a rule as the men are pretty hungry and devour everything in sight."

"The kitchens are kept very clean and neat and all refuse is burned up. Sanitary inspections of the kitchens occur twice daily and any fault is at once remedied. The idea of screening the kitchen tent with wire netting has been started by Company F of Northfield and before long every kitchen will probably be screened."

"At present we have details at five different ranches in a radius of 45 miles and the provisions are carried out to them three times a week by auto truck, so there are not having any harder time of life than we who remain in camp."

"It is not very often that any fault is found with either the food or the cooking, but even in the best of families sometimes things do not turn out as planned and some meals are not up to standard. On the whole there is no chance for the men to complain either on the quality or the quantity of the food."

Thirty Barrels Flour Daily.

The Phoenix has received from Carl M. Voetsch, a member of Company I, 1st Vermont regiment, who is with the field bakery at Eagle Pass, Texas, a letter giving some details about bread making for the soldiers. Mr. Voetsch is a son of Charles Voetsch, proprietor of a bakery on South Main street, and assisted his father at the bakery before going to the border. He writes:

EAGLE PASS, Texas, July 17.

It may interest the people of Brattleboro to know something about the bread end of camp.

The bakery is run by 23 men. Sergeant George F. Rorer of Washington is in charge and I am his assistant. There are three shifts of seven men in charge of Sergeants Walden, Vogelzang and Heidman respectively. Each shift makes 2,500 pounds of A-1 bread, a total of 7,500 pounds a day. We use about 30 barrels of flour a day. This bread is eaten by all the troops here. Fleischmann's yeast is used and the flour comes from San Antonio.

"The bakers are sent here from the different camps of militia and regulars, some from Kansas, Maryland, Vermont and some regulars."

Hoping this will interest you, I am

Yours truly,

CARL M. VOETSCH.

The following letter has been received from 1st Sergeant C. W. Treadwell of Company I, V. N. G., at Eagle

Pass, addressed to his father and dated July 17:

"Received a card from mother yesterday and was very glad to hear from home. We are getting along fine here now. Cook Gonyer is certainly doing well as cook for the company. He is feeding 96 men at the present day. We have 16 men attached to our company for rations outside of our own men. Sunday we had chicken with all the fix'ns, and lots of it."

"There are three or four bands here. One with the 2d Kansas sounds a lot like a circus band. The Maryland band is a very good one. The men miss the 1st Regiment band, believe me. The only music we have is the organ the Estey's put on at Brattleboro. Capt. Thomas, the chaplain, uses it for his readings and entertainments and at Sunday services."

"We are having hard drill every day now. We are getting our mess tent fixed up and are to screen it. This is a very healthy camp. All refuse is burned up. We haven't seen many flies so far."

"I have a floor in my tent raised high enough so I do not get wet when it rains. The rains here are like cloudbursts. The clay on our street after a rain looks like a barn yard and dries up like cement and just as hard. The thermometer runs up to 125 degrees in the middle of the day."

"The Mexicans here are a timid lot. They live in houses covered with a sort of bamboo. Some of them have better houses than the average. There are some fine houses here owned by Americans in the town which is about a mile from our camp."

"One battalion has left here for different points on the border and at railroad bridges along the border and the city. They will be away 10 days and then another battalion will relieve them. They are transported back and forth in automobile trucks. Our feet were inspected yesterday after we received our new underclothing and new O. D. cotton breeches. Will write later. Give regards to the band boys."

A letter from Col. Reeves, commanding the Vermont regiment, at Eagle Pass, written July 14, contains the following paragraphs of general interest:

"At this time all of the companies of the regiment are here in Camp Shafter, Eagle Pass, but by the time you receive this letter Companies A, B, C and D will be covering a seventy mile front on patrol duty, having relieved the regular troops. When the regiment is broken up doing guard duty on the river I will arrange to visit them often, and will no doubt see all of them at least once a week."

"Everything in the regiment is getting along fine. We have very little sickness, and what we have is not of a serious nature. We have a very sanitary camp, free from flies and insects, and the men seem happy and contented. So far we have had no cuts for the men to show on their faces or uniforms on every train. We were a little short of tentage, but are gradually getting the things that are essential for camp comfort. We had some pictures taken of the camp yesterday, and I will send you some just as soon as we can get them."

Corp. J. M. Colomb of Company A, 1st Vermont regiment, in a letter under date of July 15, tells of the conditions of his company which is now on duty at Lehmann's ranch, 15 miles from Eagle Pass. The company with Packard trucks required six hours for the road was almost impossible in places because of the rain. Describing the ranch he wrote:

"The ranch covers over 1,500 acres and is right along the side of the Rio Grande. It is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Lehmann and he seems like a decent sort of a chap. The boys are well satisfied with the place and we all bank in a large stone building and it is nice and cool inside all day. We retain a guard at all times which consists of six men and a corporal, and is changed every 24 hours."

"The men cannot leave the immediate vicinity unless they go in parties of at least four men and then they must go armed with a loaded rifle and 210 rounds of ammunition."

"The members of the 3d infantry had some nice souvenirs of the ranch. One of the men had the hide of a prairie dog and several of them had rattlesnake skins, one of which was six feet long. The men of Company A have gotten such a tan that their skin is but a few shades lighter than a negro's."

"The ranch is all fenced around and every man has his place in case of an attack. The order reads that the alarm is two shots in rapid succession. When this is heard, each man will plant it to his rifle and be ready. The least a man will take with him is his rifle and 220 rounds of ammunition and he must wear at least his underwear and shoes."

EAGLE PASS, Texas, July 18.

Col. Reeves has assigned me the pleasant duty of sending a word now and then to the home papers, in order that the friends at home may have an official word as to the health and welfare of the men. I am glad to report that thus far the men are in excellent spirits and there have been no more cases of illness than would be likely to occur among the same number of men at home. The only illness at the moment is a case of Private Vance Rich of Company F, who is making a rapid and complete recovery from an operation for appendicitis. Aside from administration of the typhoid prophylactic and vaccinations, the medical staff has had little to do. One of the doctors has suggested he might bring his family here as a desirable health resort. What little illness we have had has come from drinking too much 'pop' and eating pies bought at the exchange and outside stands. Restrictions were placed promptly on the sale of these articles, and the good effect was noticed at once. The army rations are clean, healthy, and abundant and both officers and men live as well as they do at home."

It is natural for the boys to write scary letters about the terrible heat and the exhalations and outside stinks. Restrictions were placed promptly on the sale of these articles, and the good effect was noticed at once. The army rations are clean, healthy, and abundant and both officers and men live as well as they do at home."

The Soldiers' Aid society (composed of men) has just received from Lieut. W. R. Spaulding, commanding Company I at Eagle Pass, Texas, an official acknowledgment, addressed 'gentlemen,' of the receipt of the pajamas which the society recently sent to the members of the company. He says: 'The boys are all having a pajama parade today.'

WASHINGTON, July 26. — All National Guard organizations composed of college students will be mustered out of the federal service this time for them to proceed with their school work at the fall term.

It was announced at the war department yesterday that the policy of the government would be to disband such organizations completely as units of

the National Guard and to seek the reorganization of the college men into branches of the officers' reserve corps.

National Guard units composed of students, who have not gone to the border prior to Aug. 1, will not be sent forward, and similar organizations on the border will be withdrawn on Sept. 1 for mustering out unless some new emergency arises.

Individual members of National Guard organizations who have the intention of entering or returning to college or schools for the fall term also will be mustered out on Sept. 1.

ENGELSON FIGHTS EXTRADITION

Arrested in Springfield in Connection with Guilford Cattle Deal and Held as Fugitive.

Barnett Engelson of Springfield, Mass., was arrested in that city Saturday morning on a warrant taken there by Sheriff C. E. Mann of Brattleboro charging him with obtaining property under false pretenses. The sheriff had been looking for Engelson since the fall of 1914. Engelson was held under \$800 bail as a fugitive from justice. Engelson's attorneys declare they will ask credit on the ground that the offense charged is not extraditable and not criminal.

On Sept. 1, 1914, Engelson and Louis Plante of Springfield and Thomas Welcome of Guilford bought two pairs of steers of A. S. Gallup of that town and Engelson tendered in payment a check for \$25 drawn on the Springfield State Deposit and Trust Co. This was returned for lack of funds.

Gallup later sued Welcome and obtained a verdict for \$315.47, the face of the check with interest.

State's Attorney O. B. Hughes and Sheriff C. E. Mann went to Montpelier Wednesday and obtained Gov. Gates' signature to extradition papers, and yesterday in Boston they obtained the necessary signatures at the Massachusetts state house. Mr. Hughes arrived home last evening and Sheriff Mann stopped in Springfield to bring his prisoner from the state line to Brattleboro. He will be taken in charge in Springfield by a member of the Massachusetts state police and turned over to Sheriff Mann at the state line.

Flags for Company I Fund.

Brattleboro Young Women Accept Invitation of President Horton D. Walker of Board of Trade.

President Horton D. Walker of the Brattleboro board of trade has written letters to about 30 young women of Brattleboro inviting them to sell small United States flags for the benefit of the Company I fund. He states in the letter that voluntary subscriptions to the fund have failed and invites them to take this means of obtaining more money for the boys who have sacrificed so much to enter the service of the country.

The flags are small ones of celluloid and bear on the back the statement that the owner has contributed to the Company I fund. They are being sold for any price obtainable from five cents up and some of the purchasers have paid considerable sums for them.

The following are the young women who are selling the flags: Irene Boddgett, Mollie Ryan, Irene Long, Patience Wilder, Alma Johnson, Elizabeth Brasser, Gladys Adams, Noene Richmond, Ruth Stowell, Hazel Clark, Dorothy Angier, Elizabeth Robinson of Chesterfield, S. H. Elizabeth Atkinson, Elaine Sullivan, Clara Warren, Hazel Switzer, Dorothy Denning, Jane Bray, Marjorie Glemos, Alice Newell, Charlene Bemis, Eva Clark of Guilford, Gertrude Stockwell, Mary Macdonald, Matilda Codd, Mildred Macdonald, Alice Richardson.

DROVE CAR IN TRAIN'S PATH.

M. J. Covey, Former Deputy Sheriff, Fatally Injured in Accident at Manchester.

M. J. Covey of Manchester Depot, 78, deputy sheriff, died at his home about 11 o'clock Tuesday of injuries received two hours previous when an automobile which he was driving was struck by the northbound Rutland railroad passenger train reaching Rutland at about 11 o'clock. Mr. Covey was leaning to run the car and it is believed that, because of his advanced age, he was so intent on operating the machine he forgot the danger from the railroad and he drove on to the track near the station directly in the path of the moving train.

Mr. Covey was thrown through the windshield and was hurled about 35 feet when the locomotive struck the automobile. He was terribly cut and bruised. He was taken to the office of Dr. Leveley and moved soon after to his home as it was seen at once that he could not recover.

Mr. Covey was a long time resident of Manchester. He leaves his wife and three sons, one of whom, J. B. Covey, lives in Manchester.

JUMPS 15 STORIES TO DEATH.

John M. Lidgerwood, Providence Broker, Had Suffered Nervous Breakdown Six Months.

John M. Lidgerwood, 61, a stock broker, died at his home in Providence, R. I., Tuesday afternoon and was instantly killed before scores of people. Every bone in the body was broken. A heavy trailer wire was snapped in two. He went in to see Herbert M. Sherwood in the law office of C. R. Haslam, Pierce & Thorne, about collecting on an accident and health policy, which he had, and also about some small investments. He had been suffering from a nervous breakdown for six months.

All of the business was transacted in the morning and there was no reason for his return in the afternoon. It was said at the law office. He appeared there just before 2 o'clock and asked that he might sit in the reception room for a few minutes. Five minutes later C. R. Haslam saw him sitting there, but a minute later he was gone and his body had struck the payment below.

Lidgerwood had been employed by the L. A. Lockwood company for a number of years and was a bachelor.

Dwindling Labor Supply.

With the daily demands of labor for higher wages and with the scarcity of labor very evident, the outlook in the general labor market is being viewed everywhere with apprehension. The situation, there is reason to believe, will become more acute within a very few weeks unless there is something done to release a large number of unskilled laborers to harvest the nation's crops, says the Electrical World.

The former vast army of unemployed has found work in industrial centers at almost undreamed-of wages. It is not thought that the farmers of the West will allow their crops to go unharvested because of high wages. Rather it is expected that labor will be given unusual inducements to desert the mill for the farm.

It is certain that there is not a sufficient supply of labor adequately to serve both agricultural harvesting demands and those of the country's factories. The difficulty undoubtedly is largely due to the cutting off of immigration in large numbers.

A firm name sometimes indicates business infirmity.

Direct wireless communication across the oceans is likely to be accomplished soon.

The writing Carranza sees on the wall is a warning that his so-called government is tottering to a fall.

Dean's Rheumatic Pills for Rheumatism and neuralgia. Entirely vegetable. Safe.



## Trust Department

By law of Congress and by act of the Legislature of Vermont, this Bank is now empowered to act as

Executor of wills  
Administrator upon estates of deceased persons  
Trustee by appointment of court. Receiver by appointment of court  
Trustee by personal arrangement. Assignee by appointment of court  
Guardian of minor. Guardian of insane persons

It has all the powers of a trust company or an individual in those capacities. This Bank, as Trustee, Executor, Administrator or Receiver, is subject to the supervision of the government of the United States, and also the control of the courts of the State of Vermont.

All our capital, surplus and undivided profits, amounting to more than \$350,000, are an additional protection.

We invite a conference with any person desiring information or advice concerning any such matter. Our officers will furnish information and advice without charge. Our Trust Department was established March 25, 1916. There has already been entrusted to us in that department more than \$100,000.

## OVER 400 CARS OWNED HERE.

Registrations Up to June 10 Were 396, Representing 49 Makes — Increase of 116 Past Year.

The ninth year book of the Automobile Club of Vermont, as of June 1, but containing an appendix including registrations of machines to June 10 inclusive, shows 396 machines of 49 different makes registered by owners in Brattleboro and West Brattleboro. This is an increase of 116 over the registration at about the same time last year and an increase of six in the number of makes of machines represented. This does not include machines owned by dealers and used by them or their employees. Several cars have been registered from Brattleboro since the year book was issued, bringing the total well above the 400 mark. Only 22 motorcycles are registered from Brattleboro, a decrease of five from the record last year.

The record shows that there is a large increase in the number of cars of high grade owned in town. Fords lead, of course, with a total of 147. Next come Overlands with 35, closely pressed by Hudsons with 31. There are 22 Buicks, 21 Dodges, 20 Cadillacs, 12 each of Packards and Maxwells, nine each of Oldsmobiles and Studebakers, eight Chalmers, six each of Metz and Chevrolets, five Oldsmobiles, four each of Pierce Arrows and Reos, and three each of Stanleys, Ramblers and Carters.

The makes with two representatives each are Saxton, White, Jeffery, Stevens, Duryea, Federal, Humphreys, Thomas and Knox. Those of which there is but one each are Haynes, Republic, Stewart, Schaefer, Galloway, Courier, Berliet, Patterson, Briscoe, Premier, Lippard, Standard, Selden, Mitchell, Paige-Detroit, Detroit, Packard, Alco, Grant, Koehler, Little and Lion.

There are 22 motorcycles registered, representing five makes. The Indians lead with 15. The Harley-Davidson has three, Pope two and the M.H.M. and Excelsior one each.

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Mr. Covey was thrown through the windshield and was hurled about 35 feet when the locomotive struck the automobile. He was terribly cut and bruised. He was taken to the office of Dr. Leveley and moved soon after to his home as it was seen at once that he could not recover.

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